



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

February 3, 2003

H.R. 337

A bill to extend certain hydroelectric licenses in the state of Alaska.

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on
January 29, 2003*

CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 337 would have no net effect on the federal budget. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

H.R. 337 would direct the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to stay the license for hydroelectric project number 11393, if requested by the licensee, for up to six years after construction of the Swan-Tyee transmission line is completed. When the line is completed, if requested by the licensee, FERC would be required to lift the stay and extend the deadline for beginning construction of the project for up to two years. This project is near Ketchikan, Alaska.

This bill could have a minor impact on FERC's workload. Because FERC recovers 100 percent of its costs through user fees, any change in its administrative costs would be offset by an equal change in the fees that the commission charges. Hence, the bill's provisions would have no net budgetary impact.

Because FERC's administrative costs are set in annual appropriations, enactment of this legislation would not affect direct spending or receipts.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Lisa Cash Driskill. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.